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Executive Order 09-04

State of Montana Office of the Governor

Executive Order Rescinding and Replacing Executive Order No. 7-04, Authorizing the Transfer of the Montana Cooperative Development Center from the Montana Department of Agriculture to the Montana Cooperative Development Center, Inc.

WHEREAS, the Montana Cooperative Development Center (MCDC) has been administered by the Montana Department of Agriculture in Helena; and

WHEREAS, Montana's agriculture organizations, USDA-Rural Development, and Montana State University concur that MCDC's transfer from the Montana Department of Agriculture in Helena to the MCDC will enable continued service to the citizens of Montana through coordinated actions of all parties; and

WHEREAS, the MCDC has received biennial federal Rural Cooperative Development Grant (RCDG) funding awards in 2001 and 2002, an annual award through the Lake County Community Development Corporation in 2003, and pre-applications for renewal of these awards are planned for 2004; and

WHEREAS, state sources of funding appropriated for MCDC will be transferred from the Department of Agriculture during the same period, as Senate Bill 115 statutorily appropriates funds to the center, which will provide necessary matching funds continuity for the MCDC; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Department of Agriculture and other interested parties advise that it is in the best interest to create the MCDC as a private non-profit corporation for the proper administration of MCDC programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUDY MARTZ, Governor of the State of Montana, by virtue of the authority vested in me pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Montana, Title 2, Chapter 15, MCA, and under other applicable laws of the State of Montana, do hereby approve and direct the transfer of the Montana Cooperative Development Center from the Montana Department of Agriculture to the Montana Cooperative Development Center, Inc. and do hereby approve and direct the Montana Department of Agriculture to enter into a contract with MCDC, Inc. to continue its operations and funding as provided by law.

This Order is effective April 1, 2004.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT

SEAL of the State of Montana,
this ____ day of _____, 2004.

JUDY MARTZ, Governor

ATTEST:

BOB BROWN, Secretary of State



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